

August 12, 2003

Mr. Leon M. Oberdick, Program Manager
Water Management Program
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Southcentral Region
909 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110

**Re: The Harrisburg Authority/CSO Management and Control
Program/Sensitive Area Identification**

Dear Mr. Oberdick:

Brinjac/Malcolm Pirnie are currently assisting The Harrisburg Authority (THA) with a combined sewer overflow (CSO) management and control program, which includes the development of a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP). The LTCP is being prepared in accordance with THA's NPDES permit effective February 1, 2003. One of the components of the LTCP is consideration of sensitive areas that might be impacted by CSO discharges. The goal of this component of the LTCP is to develop an awareness of the locations of sensitive areas to guide the development and selection of CSO control alternatives, as well as identify priorities for implementation.

Based on discussion with THA, the following sensitive areas have been identified for investigation:

- City Island swimming beach.
- Borough of Steelton raw water intake.
- City of Harrisburg emergency raw water intake.
- Susquehanna River and associated sensitive areas/issues/uses.

In accordance with the USEPA CSO Control Policy, sensitive areas should be identified by the permitting Authority in coordination with State and Federal agencies. Pursuant to this, Brinjac/Malcolm Pirnie would like to set up a meeting with you in the immediate future to discuss potential sensitive areas adjacent to THA's collection and conveyance system. I will contact you shortly to set a date for this meeting.

THA has been making steady progress towards completion of the CSO management and control program. The following activities have been completed or are underway:

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- Prepared Action Plan. The Action Plan describes the activities that will be taken to complete the various portions of the CSO Management and Control Program.
- Developed and implemented a flow monitoring program. The portion of the flow monitoring program needed to support development of a hydraulic model for THA's conveyance system is complete.
- Developed and implemented a water quality sampling program. 1 of 3 water quality sampling events has been completed to-date.
- Began collection of additional spatial data needed for the hydraulic model.

The first permit milestone is to complete the system characterization portion of the LTCP. A System Characterization Report will be prepared which includes the flow monitoring and water quality sampling results and characterization of water quality/sensitive area conditions. However, the completion of the water quality monitoring program is weather dependent, due to the criteria for wet weather qualifying events.

Please call me if you have any questions or if you require additional information. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

MALCOLM PIRNIE, INC.



Ronald R. Cavalieri, P.E.
Associate

cc: Thomas J. Mealy, THA
David A. Brinjac, Brinjac Engineering, Inc.
File: 4602-003
rrc081103.padep.harrisburg.sensitiveare.ltr



Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

909 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200

August 26, 2003

Southcentral Regional Office

717-705-4707
FAX - 717-705-4760

ALL COPY

Mr. Ronald R. Cavalieri
Malcolm Pirnie
40 Centre Drive
PO Box 1938
Buffalo, NY 14219-0138

Re: Sewage
Harrisburg Authority
Harrisburg City, Dauphin County

Dear Mr. Cavalieri:

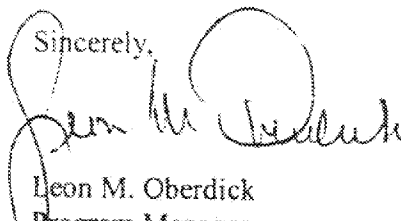
This is in response to your letter dated August 12, 2003 regarding an identification of sensitive areas that might be impacted by Harrisburg Authority CSOs.

I agree with your list 1-3 but I'm unsure what the last one refers to. I believe the impoundment created by the Dock Street Dam in Harrisburg (including the City Island beach) creates a sensitive area due to the high level of recreational use in the entire impounded area which results in an increased level of human contact with the river water. Additionally, there are two private boat ramps located just downstream of the Route 83 bridge on the east shore.

I have not listed Paxton Creek. However, it is included on the 303(d) list of impaired waters and one of the causes for listing is the existence of CSOs. Although this stretch of creek through Harrisburg may not be "sensitive," it is important to work on its recovery as a viable aquatic community/resource.

If you desire to meet with Water Management staff to further discuss the issue, please call me at 717-705-4795.

Sincerely,



Leon M. Oberdick
Program Manager
Water Quality Management

